Indiana University • Purdue University • Fort Wayne

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

The Communicator

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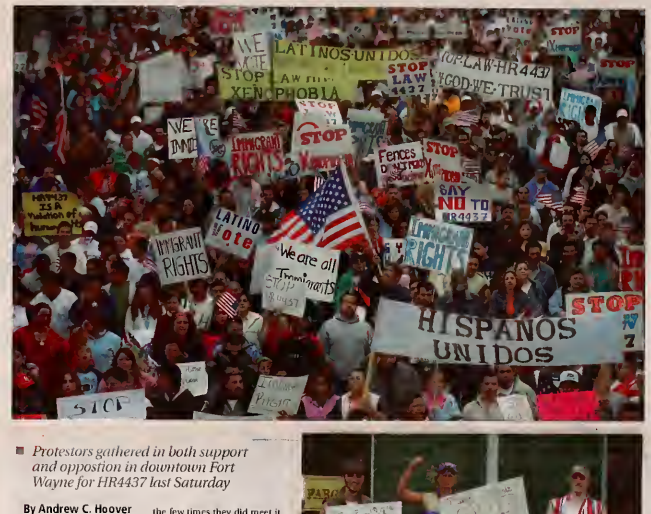
Volume 36, Issue 26 www.ipfwcommunicator.org 12 Pages, 2 Sections, Free

Hundreds protest



Protestors gathered in both support and opposition in downtown Fort Wayne for HR4437 last Saturday

By Andrew C. Hoover
ahoover@ipfwcommunicator.org

As record-setting protests rocked Los Angeles and other major United States cities, even Fort Wayne was the setting of huge protests.

Hundreds of people gathered and took to the streets with signs that read "Stop Xenophobia," "Immigrant Rights" and "We are all Immigrants."

Even with the rumor that skinhead and other violent groups would arrive to break up the protests, the crowd surged on waving American flags and carrying their children.

Very few pro-HR4437 people were on scene to protest the protestors, and the few times they did meet it was non-violent, although the jeers were often cruel and very vulgar.

However, the lack of support for HR4437 does not reflect the general feel of Americans.

A recent NBC poll showed an overwhelming 83 percent of people were opposed to illegal immigrants applying for temporary-worker status.

A Quinnipiac University poll showed a staggering 62 percent of people surveyed were opposed to making citizenship easier and that 57 percent consider it a serious poll. Time Magazine Poll showed that 75 percent say that the U.S. is doing a "bad job" and "not enough" in regards to illegal immigration.

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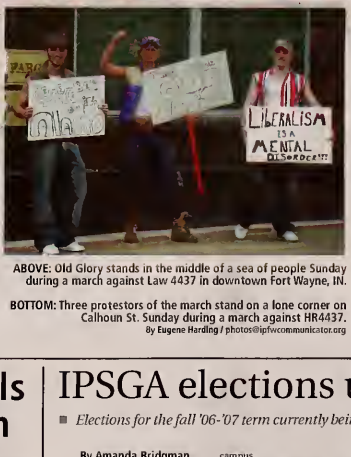

ABOVE: Old Glory stands in the middle of a sea of people Sunday during a march against Law 4437 in downtown Fort Wayne, IN.

BOTTOM: Three protestors of the march stand on a lone corner on Calhoun St. Sunday during a march against HR4437.
By Eugene Harding / photos@ipfwcommunicator.org

News Briefs

Saddam charged with genocide

On Tuesday, Iraqi chief investigative judge Ra'id Juhi officially announced that former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein would be officially charged with genocide in regards to the Anfal campaign against the Kurds in the late 1980s.

The official charge of genocide carries considerable weight, and will join the charges the ex-dictator is currently standing trial over.

With this new charge, Saddam is on trial for the political murders of an estimated 50 to 200 thousand people currently, CNN reports.

Judge Juhi added that a chemical campaign against the town of Halabja, which resulted in 5000 people being gassed to death, would be a separate charge.

This is only the start of the trials for Saddam; he could face up to 20 trials on various charges, including the 1991 suppression of the Shiite uprising in southern Iraq.

Alcohol awareness activities offer comical education to sobering topic

member

IPFW will host the annual Alcohol Awareness and Screening Day on April 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Walb Student Union.

This fun and educational event is free and open to the public.

The Alcohol Awareness Day is a fun event that features a chance to take the "drunk driving challenge" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in which participants have their vision altered to simulate what it is like to drive over the limit.

Visitors to the event also get to try fatal vision goggles, can visit a virtual "party sober" bar and remember why you drink in the first place, enjoy virgin "mocktails" and get free educational handouts and confidential screenings with health professionals.

The event is sponsored by the IPFW Substance Abuse Council; Department of Athletics, Recreation and Intramural Sports; Personal Counseling and the IPFW/Parkview Health and

▸ **NEWS:** *Page A2*

Former marine calls crowd to attention

By Allison Graber
agraber@ipfwcommunicator.org

Walb Ballroom was buzzing with life on Sunday night while IPFW students and community members prepared for Brian Steidle, a former marine captain, to share about his experiences in the Darfur region of Sudan.

Following the Sudanese culture break, Steidle addressed the crowd in his red shirt and khakis with confidence and conviction as he expounded upon the genocide and his role in documenting it.

Hired as a civilian contractor to the region and thus equipped with valuable information, he realized the importance of sharing what he saw with anyone who would listen.

"During my time there I witnessed things people should never have to see," he said.

Using statistics and photos, he brought the audience to a clear realization of the crisis that is occurring in Darfur. With 400,000 dead since 2003 and the press seemingly uninterested in the events taking place there, he encouraged IPFW students and all in attendance to write to their congresspersons and sign petitions.

"I honestly believe we can stop this," he said, while adding that we may not receive anything in return other than the knowledge that we helped out fellow human beings.

With a goal of sending one million petitions to Washington by April 30, Steidle's purpose is to encourage President Bush to support a multinational intercession to end the genocide in Sudan.

For more information about what you can do or for further details about the genocide in Darfur, check out www.MillionVoicesforDarfur.org or www.savedarfur.org.

IPSGA elections underway

Elections for the fall '06-'07 term currently being held online until April 6

By Amanda Bridgman & Brianna Belford
news@ipfwcommunicator.org

On Monday Indiana Purdue Student Government Elections began. Voting takes place until Thursday online.

Currently student government is responsible for bringing many new student services to campus: a student discount package, freshman mentoring program, picnic tables, microwaves and TV's in student lounges, child care service, free tutoring, used book sales, increased student representation on university and faculty decision-making bodies, a student emergency loan program, 24-hour computer access within the library's lounge area, and funding for many student organizations on campus.

Presidential candidates Nicholas Adams and Shay Stroik ran into a few problems while campaigning this year. Adams and Stroik both had slogans denied by the Election Board Committee.

Adams said he 'took legal action' and that 'they are not allowed to censor candidates anymore.'

According to Adams more than half of his campaign slogans were denied, most notably 'He's not a crook.' and 'Adams for President- he won't sleep with his interns... not actually a campaign promise.'

Negative speech, Adams said, was not to be used.

Stroik also had a slogan denied.

Both Presidential candidates hope to expand and continue with some of current SGA President Lamar Dixon's incentives and goals. Dixon would not comment on his incentives and goals, declining an interview.

Adams' platform for a swimming pool, an insurance and health care package for students, and a bio-diesel plan are featured long-term goals. His short-term goals of adding healthy food choices in vending machines is a viable option, however Stroik feels it doesn't outweigh the fact that his campaign isn't centered on those students who are currently casting their votes.

"I think that the environmental issues that they brought up are not feasible for this campus."

ON THE WEB: Log onto The Communicator's Web site Friday for full election coverage.

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Editorial Policy

Editorials are the opinions of The Communicator. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of IPFW, its employees or its student body. A column is solely the opinion of its author.

The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via email will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserved the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

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News Briefs
Stargazing with Hubble

On April 11 at 4 p.m. in Walb Union Room G21, IPFW will host the world-renowned astronomer and astrophysicist Mark Voit for a lecture entitled "Dark Matters: Cosmology 2006." Mark Voit is world-renowned for his space work, including working for the STSI in Maryland. The STSI, Space Telescope Science Institute, runs both the Hubble Space Telescope and the James Webb Space Telescope, which is slated for launch in 2013. The STSI also maintains many other science initiatives that deal with space.

Mark Voit spent his years at the STSI working with the Hubble Program. He not only conducted research, but he also specialized in introducing the public to the universe and the great depth and wonder presented by the Hubble Space Telescope. Voit also was the project scientist for the Smithsonian Institute's traveling exhibit that showed pictures taken by the Hubble. Voit's extensive work with the Hubble also includes NASA's HubbleSite and "The Cosmic Perspective," which he co-authored and is now a textbook. Currently, Voit is an associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Michigan State University.

Voit's lecture is free and open to the public. There will be a reception in the Fireside Lounge featuring hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Sigma Xi and the IPFW departments of anthropology and math are sponsoring the lecture. For more information, please call Richard Sutter at 260-481-6676.

▶ **Protest**
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As the protestors raged in downtown Fort Wayne, Congress continued to discuss the matter on the floor of the Senate.

After HR4437 passed the House, it has stalled on the Senate floor. President Bush has created a schism within the Republican party by demanding a comprehensive bill that would include a guest-worker program and potentially grant amnesty to the potential eight to 20 million illegal immigrants already in America. Republican senators have claimed this bill is everything from "best for America" to "racist." Those Republicans that have broken away from Mr. Bush have been quoted as saying "I just wish he would consider what was best for his party ... and his nation."

Those in favor of the stricter aspects of HR 4437 claim that it is a security problem to opening our borders even more in this age of terrorism. Anti-immigration supporters also suggest that altering the bill to include amnesty will cost "29 billion dollars if they grant amnesty." Other opponents claim that the amnesty section of the bill rewards people for breaking the law, illegally entering America, and punishing those waiting for the chance to legally immigrate here. Still other people in favor of HR 4437 point out that it strengthens our borders and opens up more jobs for the middle-class American. A CNN poll showed that 99 percent of people polled feel that Congress and the government punish and ignore the middle class.

As the debate rages, many opponents of HR 4437, those in favor of the guest-worker program and other "easier" immigration laws, point out that HR 4437 is xenophobic and racist. Other reasons for stopping HR 4437 is a logistic issue regarding deportation of the eight to 20 million illegal immigrants would be very immense and difficult. Others have claimed that HR 4437 will result in a giant wall being built along the Rio Grande, and that the bill only attacks Mexico and Latinos across the nation.

As the debate continues, millions of legal and illegal immigrants continue to protest in the streets of Chicago, New York, Miami and even Fort Wayne.

The bill is currently on the floor of the U.S. Senate after passing through the House with 259 for it, 182 against and 13 abstaining on Dec. 16, 2005.

▶ **ELECTIONS**
From Page A1

commented Stroik. "Especially since a lot of things they brought up are personal choices and telling students what they should think and do while spending their money... it's never going to work. It's such a personal life choice."

Stroik, if elected, hopes to add food options for those living in Waterfield dorms. A convenience store offering fresh fruits and vegetables along with dry goods, according to Stroik, will not only add ease for those living in the dorms but will add campus jobs.

The other hot ticket pits Danny Epple and Lydia Hollinger against one another for the V.P. of Programming seat currently held by Stroik.

Epple, who is running on the same ticket as Stroik, hopes to add fewer events that will attract larger crowds rather than more events with fewer students in attendance. One major project Epple proposed is to offer carriage rides around campus in the fall and during the holiday season at a reduced or free rate for students.

Epple, a sophomore on the deans list since 2004, will be sentenced in May on charges stemming from his guilty plea in relation to driving drunk last August and crashing into another car where former professor of economics John Manzer was killed.

"Before this horrible accident had happened, I'd been on the honors and deans list and tried to put my best foot forward in helping on campus," said Epple. "I've found the direction from the support of the community to continue on with my life regardless of what the future holds for me. I want to continue on doing all of the positive things I have going on in life and direct any other efforts to bettering the community."

The IPSGA elections are currently underway and students can vote online this year through my.ipfw.edu.

For more information in regards to the elections or the candidates, current IPSGA members or policies, or how to join the IPSGA you can stop by their office on 2nd Floor of Walb Student Union.

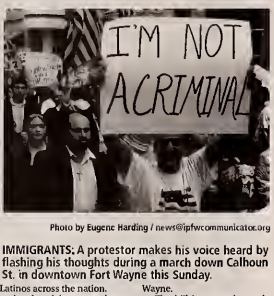

Photo by Eugene Harding / news@ipfwcommunicator.org

IMMIGRANTS: A protestor makes his voice heard by flashing his thoughts during a march down Calhoun St. in downtown Fort Wayne this Sunday.

Omnibus Lecture Series

Liz Murray

From Homeless to Harvard

Monday, April 10, 2006, 7:30 p.m.
IPFW Walb Student Union Ballroom

Liz Murray's life is a triumph over adversity and a stunning example of the importance of dreaming big. Her life as the child of cocaine-addicted parents in the Bronx was grim. By the time Murray was 15, her mom had died, and she was homeless—living on the streets, riding the subway all night, and eating from dumpsters. Murray imagined her life could be much better. She finished high school in just two years and began college at Harvard, thanks to a scholarship from *The New York Times*.

Murray's story sounds like a Hollywood movie—and it practically is. Lifetime Television produced a movie about Murray's life, *From Homeless to Harvard*, which premiered in April 2003. She was a recent recipient of Oprah Winfrey's first Chutzpah Award.

Free public lecture ▼ Free parking
Seating is limited. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

For more Information, call 481-6166.

Liz Murray's appearance is cosponsored by the IPFW Division of Continuing Studies.

American Sign Language interpreter provided upon request.
Lecture funded by a grant from the English, Bonter, Mitchell Foundation.

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Interviews will be conducted Wednesday, April 19, at 2 P.M.

APPLICATIONS DUE BY APRIL 17

Recognize teaching excellence

By Kira Schowe
news@ipfwcommunicator.org

You know that teacher who helped you survive Math, understand Shakespeare, or even stay awake in Science. Have you ever wondered how you could let them know how much they were appreciated? The time is now. Nominate your favorite teacher for the Students' Choice Award for Teaching Excellence.

The purpose of this award is to give students an opportunity to recognize a teacher for their teaching excellence. According to its creator, Louisa Danielson, "There was no means by which students could recognize an exceptional instructor. There are faculty - nominated awards for faculty, but there was nothing for students to nominate instructors for a job well done. So this award was created to give students a voice on campus."

Each enrolled IPFW student may nominate one instructor. This instructor must be one you had in the past two years but you may not be in their class currently. This instructor may be either part time or full time, absentia or sabbatical. The only teachers exempt from this nomination are graduate assistants.

There is no limit on how many times an instructor may be nominated however; an instructor is only allowed to receive the award every two years.

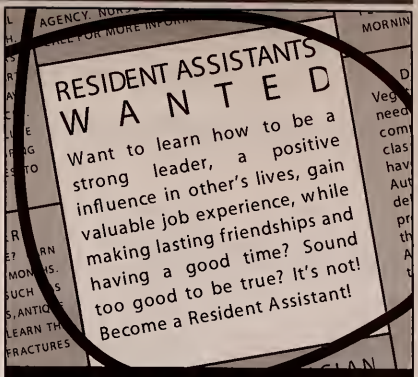
To nominate an instructor submit an essay no more than two pages long, single-spaced and twelve point font. Include a cover letter with your name, your year in school, the instructor's name and title, title of the class and how long you have known the instructor to the Dean of Students Office no latter than April 17, 2006.

Within this essay, describe how you feel the instructor went beyond the classroom with his or her teaching. Also, state how the teacher encouraged their students to excel in their schooling. According to Mrs. Danielson, "Judging will be based on how well the essays/students convey teaching excellence. Multiple essays in favor of any particular instructor will weigh also the vote in favor of that particular instructor."

Those nominated for the Students' Choice Award for Teaching Excellence will be informed by mail in mid-April, those nominated will not be informed of the student who choose them.

Students will receive a letter acknowledging their essay and nomination of their teacher in mid-April as well.

"The SCATE (Students' Choice Award) is intended to be an annual award," Mrs. Danielson added. "We have already applied to the Student Government's Allocation committee for funding for next year's award. Next year we hope to begin advertising earlier so as to reach more students. The deadline entries this year is April 17."



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Wednesday, April 5, 2006
vol. XXXII exp. XXXI
Page A4

Surrounded by wrongful first impressions

Staff Column

By Jamen Ratcliff
jratcliff@ipfwcommunicator.org

In a society that is so geared on looks, judgments and success, there is always going to be the first impression. We all create them, display them and try to deal with them. As college students we are encouraged and told that when it comes to our futures we need to pay special attention to our first impression in a job interview. This, of course, is very true.

Most interviewers will determine within the first couple of minutes whether they like an individual or not. Your resume may be the best in the stack, but if they do not feel you impress them in person, unfortunately the job would not be yours.

A regrettable fact is that first impressions do not happen only in a job interview. On a daily basis, we as humans we look at people for the first time and try to sum them up in a couple of seconds. This can be seen not only in our school systems, but also in our judicial systems as well.

The psychology behind the assumption that certain types of people perform criminal acts and that because a person is dressed one way or associates themselves with a certain type of group automatically incriminates them into becoming a stereotyped criminal.

I have had my fair share of incorrect first impressions. I have a tendency to look at a person and I judge them by their clothes, speech or possibly what they are driving. I feel this is in part to the society we live in.

A good friend of mine, however, takes this idea to the next step. He apparently has a huge obsession for the class differences in our society. When he sees a person he will more than likely classify them as rich or poor.

The sad truth is that this is not possible to do. In fact, he told me that he was on campus the other day and saw someone he classified with a few derogatory words that put them into a very low class and was stunned to see her get into a newer Mercedes Benz and drive away.

Individuals who look or act like they have money may not actually have it for all we know they could be swallowed up in debt and barely making their monthly payments, yet they have all the material wants one could desire.

However, those who have money will tell you they got there by saving and not by buying flashy items just to show off to others. In my opinion this can be a very, very skewed view of our world.

Now this falls into other areas of our society as well. I think it is very interesting how I can visit different stores around the city and the workers for the most part fit a certain kind of type.

Now the store is obviously trying to create an atmosphere, but it still makes me wonder how long they have to search for those individuals and how many are turned away.

An example of this is that I went to Dairy Queen the other day and was surprised that all the workers were females and that they all seemed to be the high school beauty queen type.

Now I do not want to come across as judgmental by any means because it is truly something I try to keep under control. But at the same time, the first initial thoughts I have about a person just goes to show that our society has helped to mold these impressions into my head and the ease that I can associate an individual with one of these programmed impressions is sometimes stunning. Moreover, it is extremely unfair to those individuals.

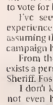
The scary thing about all this first impression stuff is that I can simply see how others could easily assign me into one of the programmed groups as well.

The idea that there are so many people I interact with on a daily basis and they will only ever see the surface of what I have to offer worries me.

I'm not saying I will just give them the world by their taking the time to talk to me, but at the same time they have an initial impression of me just because of what society says I should be like based off of a false pretense.

I encourage you as the reader of this column to take the time to get to know people before just making that first initial judgment. We are all different for many reasons, but beneath it all we still all have the same red blood that runs through us.

Signs say Foster running for Sheriff, but who is Foster?



I Have A Beard

By Chris Wetzel
cwetzel@ipfwcommunicator.org

So, Foster's running for Sheriff. Or at least, I assume he is – there's a giant sign on Washington Ctr. Road which assumes me that this is the case. I have no idea who is the hell Foster is, though, or why I should want to vote for him ... and therein lies the problem.

I've seen many of Foster's signs, and given my experience with local elections I feel fairly safe in assuming that these signs constitute the bulk of Foster's campaign budget and indeed campaign materials.

From these signs I have learned three things: There exists a person named Foster. This person is running for Sheriff. Foster spent a lot of money on signs.

I don't know anything about his stances, his history, not even his party affiliation. I don't know his first name; in fact, I really haven't a clue what Foster's gender is. There is no possible way I can in good conscience vote for somebody I know so little about.

Why, consider the example of the Ny Man Mitch signs from 2004, which used this technique of conveying no information to cleverly conceal the fact that Mitch Daniels is a mildly retarded cocker spaniel.

So let's consider the thing that I as a good citizen am notionally supposed to do at this point, educate myself about the candidate.

Of course, as a good citizen I should be doing this anyway; if I investigated only those candidates whose names I saw printed in big letters while driving, why, that would make me a boob of some sort!

For the sake of argument, let's say that while educating myself I learned that Foster is a card-carrying member of NAMBLA, or a Klansman, or perhaps a strong believer in zero-tolerance drug law enforcement.

Any of these things would make my voting for him (or her) entirely out of the question.

Or, for a less extreme example, let's say that having examined the positions of Foster and those of his (or her) opponent, I preferred those of the opponent.

Is seeing Foster's name printed on signs a bunch of times between now and the election actually going to change my mind?

Who is it that these things are attempting to sway? As I think I've demonstrated, whoever it is, it sure as hell isn't informed voters.

The theory, as I understand it, is simple consumer-advertisement style name recognition; if people see your name on a large number of attractive signs, they assume you must be a reasonable person. That's terrifying.

Based on nothing but those signs, for all you know Foster is a serial rapist. What kind of a system do we have if people don't know anything about the people they're voting for?

Well all best hope that Foster wasted his (or her) money – because to whatever extent those signs work, democracy doesn't.

Under democracy, the idea is that the people are ultimately the rulers. We choose from among ourselves individuals who will exercise authority for the common good – in other words, we elect public servants.

It's not hard to see that this is basically nonsense; our elected officials in Washington are no more our servants than Pavlov was his dog's, and I'd be extremely interested in hearing in what sense Bush or Kerry are from "among ourselves."

So it's a sham to assert that the people rule in a system in which their only contribution to the process is to hit a few buttons on a machine every couple of years.

However, when lots of said people don't even know why they are hitting said buttons, which is what these "campaign" signs are trying very hard to suggest, the system's justification stops being even as noble a thing as a sham and becomes instead a farce instead.

Every time an election year rolls around, these signs start springing up like weeds at busy intersections and infuriate me.

If people want to debase the system a little bit on their own lawns, that's one thing; everybody has the right to advocacy, no matter how stupid a form it takes. But there seems to me to be something fundamentally wrong with using public ground for this purpose.

So, much like every election year, I'll drive past these things getting increasingly fed up until at length I resolve to go on a sign-stealing spree ... this spree always being cancelled because I get caught up doing something important, like sitting down.

Still, it's a good idea; one of these days or years, I'll have to drive through an especially bad intersection on the way home and my Internet connection will be broken when I get there.

The next morning, those who spent a lot of money trying to poison the electorate shall weep.

Or, you know what? Maybe we should actually bother to know a thing or two about the person we're voting for. There's an idea.

Photo by Jamie Miller / jmiller@ipfwcommunicator.org

SIGNS: Roadside advertisements for local candidates are commonly seen all over Fort Wayne.

Everyone could do more to conserve resources

Pasquali's Ponderings

By Angie Pasquali
apasquali@ipfwcommunicator.org

For the most part, all of us are thinking about our personal health on a daily basis.

We wonder how we compare to others, how long me might live and if we are doing things that are detrimental to our life span. Well, the odds are that most of us are harming others and ourselves without even knowing it. When you went to the grocery store last week, did you choose paper or plastic?

Most of you may not know it, but that plastic bag you just requested to carry your Pop-Tarts in will be around on the earth longer than you will. Plastic does not degrade easily. If it does at all, and, once it gets to a landfill, the chances for it to degrade drop even more. Therefore, while you continue to choose a plastic bag for your grocery items, the mass at the landfill continues to increase. Did you drive to campus today, instead of taking the easier, healthier walk from Canterbury or the dorms?

First, you could have burned some calories and got your blood flowing before your first class of the morning.

Secondly, your car pollutes the air that everyone else breathes. If we left 10 minutes earlier we could walk to places and reduce the unhealthy air that we breathe, while enjoying the beautiful Fort Wayne scenery (hey, we have the bridge now, right).

There are little things we could do to make this world better for us and the generations to come. Although there are some people reading this that probably do not need to be breeding.

Anyway, the first thing all of us need to do is to turn off electronics and such when we are not using them. I know most of us have a problem with leaving lights on, but I learned the true impact of this once I started paying my own electric bill. Every light, television or stereo that is left on, that is energy being used, as well as your dollar bills.

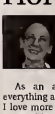
If you are leaving a room, turn stuff off. If it is sunny outside, open some blinds and let the sunlight in. This not only allows you to keep the lights off, but also heats up the home so you do not need to have the thermostat as high.

These are just few suggestions on ways that we could make our earth a little bit better for us. Why do I bring all of this up, you ask. Well, this upcoming Saturday, April 8, is Earth Day at IPFW.

Hosted by the Pre-Med Club, Chemistry Club and Beta Beta Beta, this event is aimed to educate IPFW students and the surrounding community about science related topics and most importantly, environmental issues.

This event is free to the public and is being held at the Walb and Friends Pavilion from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you are looking for something fun to do this Saturday and want to enjoy the hopefully nice weather, come on out and educate yourself a little about the environment and community and socialize all at the same time. If you live within a reasonable distance of campus, take a walk over and see how refreshed you will feel, or out of breath, depending on your health status.

Horses need Triple Crown



Staff Column

By Amie Sarka
asarka@ipfwcommunicator.org

As an avid horse lover, I love everything about horses. The one thing I love more then anything is watching competition involving horses, especially Thoroughbred racing. As a racing fan, I think we are in dire need of a Triple Crown winner. Ah, the Triple Crown. Three races – the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes.

The last Thoroughbred who won this honor was back in 1977 with Citation. Eleven horses won this title. Eleven. That is not very many. There have been many horses that have tried but failed to win all three. These three races are probably the most sought after races to win. A horse that wins these races will have its value soar.

Two horses from this century that should have won the Triple Crown are Funny Cide and Smarty Jones. These horses were destined to win, but their destiny was ripped from them. Funny Cide could have won all three. He won the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness. He should have won the Belmont Stakes as well, but lost. I'm going to go ahead and say that it was the jockey's fault for that.

I think the jockey took Funny Cide out too hard too fast. The horse was burned out by the end. There was so much hope that this horse was the horse that would finally win the Triple Crown after so many years. It was such a disappointment.

Then there was Smarty Jones. This horse was brilliant. He looked so much like Secretariat, hence why he was referred to as Red. The horse looked so much like Secretariat (Big Red) that the two could have been identical. Well, with the exception of height. Smarty should have had the Belmont Stakes in the bag. He should have had it, but it was stolen right out from under his nose.

I remember watching the race thinking he's going to do it, he's going to do it. But, he doesn't do it. Another horse beats him at the end. How disappointing is that? I would say highly disappointing. I think how the horses are trained has a huge effect on how they run. The Thoroughbreds are trained a lot differently than back in the 20th century. The horses in the 1900s were put in a lot of races.

For example, Man O' War raced 21 times in the two years that he raced. Seabiscuit and Secretariat raced even more then 21 times. I think trainers are concentrating too much on training the horses and get them fit and conditioned instead of racing.

Training can only do so much for a horse until it doesn't help it anymore. Races can help the animal improve more and more. It helps the trainer to see where the horse is at in its training and what still needs to be worked on or improved.

Now, I'm not claiming to be an expert trainer or anything. I'm just going off what I have seen and what I know. And what I know is that we need a horse to finally win the Triple Crown after almost 30 years.

And the horse to do it needs to be strong, quick and mentally ready to handle a grueling three race battle to the end.

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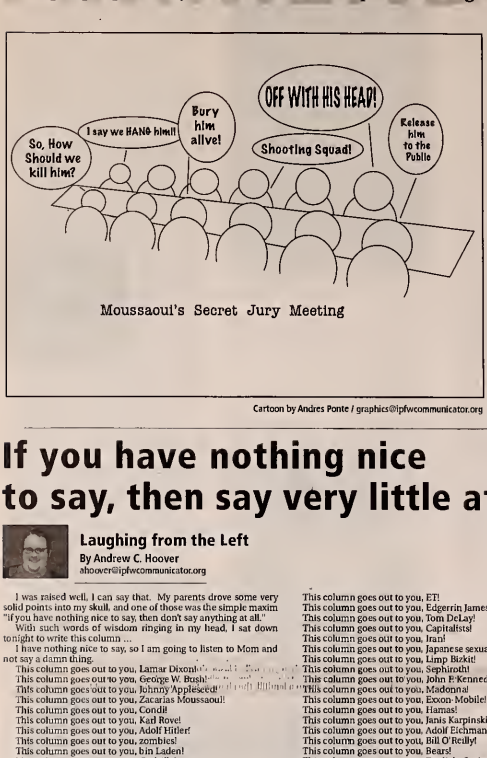


Cartoon by Andres Ponte / graphics@ipfwcommunicator.org

Death penalty for Moussaoui

Staff Editorial

Zacarias Moussaoui must receive the death penalty.

His part in the Sept. 11 attacks lead to the death of almost 3,000 Americans.

The jury finds Moussaoui offensive and distasteful with his anti-American rants.

On Monday, when the jury read the verdict that Moussaoui might be put to death, Moussaoui didn't have any reaction until the jurors started to exit the room when he yelled, "Allah Akbar" and "God curse you all, you will never get my blood."

Moussaoui doesn't seem to know how to handle himself in court.

First, Moussaoui pleaded guilty, then he denied all the charges.

He changed his mind again and admitted his role in the attacks. Apparently, now he sees himself as some sort of a martyr, sacrificing himself for a sickening cause.

An eye for an eye. A tooth for a tooth. You help kill people, you also should perish.

Moussaoui has flat-out admitted that he helped plot Sept. 11 along with al Qaeda.

What more evidence does a jury need to give a death penalty verdict? Thousands died and millions suffered. This scum played a part in that. Is that not enough anymore?

Zacarias Moussaoui deserves nothing from Americans. No kindness, no forgiveness and definitely not to be let off the hook.

Taxpayer's money does not need to be wasted by letting him sit and rot in jail. Moussaoui isn't worth that.

Moussaoui is plainly guilty. Moussaoui deserves to pay for his crimes along with all the other members of al Qaeda.

Moussaoui's death will not be remembered as martyrdom like his fellow hijackers; rather, it will be remembered as American justice served.

If you have nothing nice to say, then say very little at all

Laughing from the Left

By Andrew C. Hoover
ahoover@ipfwcommunicator.org

I was raised well. I can say that. My parents drove some very solid points into my skull, and one of those was the simple maxim "If you have nothing nice to say, then don't say anything at all."

With such words of wisdom ringing in my head, I sat down to night to write this column ...

I have nothing nice to say, so I am going to listen to Mom and not say a damn thing.

This column goes out to you, Lamar Dixon!
This column goes out to you, George W. Bush!
This column goes out to you, Johnny Appleseed!
This column goes out to you, Zacarias Moussaoui!
This column goes out to you, Condi!
This column goes out to you, Karl Rove!
This column goes out to you, Adolf Hitler!
This column goes out to you, zombies!
This column goes out to you, bin Laden!
This column goes out to you, Godzilla!
This column goes out to you, Abraham Lincoln!
This column goes out to you, consumerism!
This column goes out to you, Republicans!
This column goes out to you, Democrats!
This column goes out to you, Bud Light!
This column goes out to you, CBI !
This column goes out to you, Harley Davidson!
This column goes out to you, Marboroto!
This column goes out to you, Richard Donner!
This column goes out to you, ET!
This column goes out to you, Edgerrin James!
This column goes out to you, Tom DeLay!
This column goes out to you, Capitalists!
This column goes out to you, Iran!
This column goes out to you, Japanese sexual identity!
This column goes out to you, Limp Bizkit!
This column goes out to you, Sephiroth!
This column goes out to you, John F. Kennedy!
This column goes out to you, Madonna!
This column goes out to you, Exxon-Mobile!
This column goes out to you, Hamas!
This column goes out to you, Janis Karpinski!
This column goes out to you, Adolf Eichmann!
This column goes out to you, Bill O'Reilly!
This column goes out to you, Bears!
This column goes out to you, Daylight Saving Time!
This column goes out to you, Franklin D. Roosevelt!
This column goes out to you, Jar Jar Binks!
This column goes out to you, foam finger guy!
This column goes out to you, Marth Stewart!
This column goes out to you, Sciencetology
And lastly ...
This column, cause I have nothing nice to say to you ... ever ... goes out to Andrew C Hoover. Wow, I mean wow, that guy is a jerk.

Letter to the Editor

Praise for Moore

Hello. I coached Miss Nan Moore in basketball; she started at age six when she came from Atlanta, GA to Detroit, MI. My name is Kehinde Briggs.

I am a bishop at my church. We had church teams and I always got kids to play sports, mostly basketball.

Nan Moore was shy and I always had a team for boys but I made girls play, also. She always played with the boys and she loved it.

Jaramogi Abebe, our presiding Bishop and founder of our church before he passed, told me to put boys and girls together.

He always had a vision for youth and the future. Whatever I did to help Nan was inspired by Jaramogi. Thanks for writing the story. Congratulations, Nan.

Coach Bishop Kehinde Briggs

If tomorrow never comes...

In Other Words

By Brianna Belford
bbelford@ipfwcommunicator.org

last- n. the final moment, especially of life or events in life

Last... it's such a permanent word.
The last word.
The last say.
The last look.
The last kiss.

Hell, the last touch or sweet memory of a person gone forever lost in the memory bank where only dreams can make a withdrawal.

I can't remember the last kiss of any of my previous relationships. I couldn't tell you if that one last kiss was good or bad, long or slow, passionate or something of habit.

It just happened like it always had before and then it didn't anymore.

It's like that old saying "you never miss something until it's gone."

Not the physical aspect of a kiss... anyone can give me that. That kiss you only can give and receive from someone you share something more with.

I've always wondered what that "more" was. I know it when I have it, but defining it is something I cannot do.

It's why I've got the third date rule - if you know you don't have "more" by the third date - it isn't happening. The other person can be attractive, smart, funny, into the same things, etc... but if you don't feel something MORE when you kiss them, touch them, look at them... It's never going to come.

I've been doing a lot of thinking lately about my lasts, though.

I'm not sure if it's the season of forgiveness and redemption (Lent and Easter) that fills my heart and thoughts with these ramblings or if it's simply that I've been at a crossroads far too long and am tired of the Map of Life being a bit outdated.

Some people, the ones I miss the most in life - they're starting to fade from my immediate memory and I can't remember what they smell like, what they feel like, what it was like just to have them make me smile.

It's strange - we're all creatures of habit and we like things to stay the same. Adrenaline rushes through our bodies as change occurs. Thus, in my opinion, the exhilarating experience to some and to others who don't care for that rush it is frightening when something new is about to happen.

Lasts happen every day.

There's always that one person in your life you never thought you'd have to say goodbye to... thus you never did get to say goodbye.

There's a moment you want to remember - that last moment you were with them... it's just so hard because while your last encounter was taking place the two of you weren't thinking that it'd be the last time - or at least you didn't think so.

No financial aid if you break the law

By Amanda Hoover
The BG News
(BOWLING GREEN STATE U.)

(U-WIRE) BOWLING GREEN, Ohio - Financial aid, the holy grail of college students, may soon be even harder to get.

The famous American Civil Liberties Union is in court now, assisted by the Students for Sensible Drug Policy in an attempt to allow students with drug convictions to get financial aid.

Sorry to all of you hard-working American teenagers who spent all your time in high school studying to maintain your 4.0 and working two jobs so you could get into college. You might have to share that government money with kids who hung out behind the buses smoking pot.

No, don't get upset. According to the ACLU the government can't punish these people for crimes they committed and served time for (or more likely paid a fine).

That's in the same ranks as double jeopardy. After all, wouldn't you be angry if you made one little mistake and were punished the rest of your life for it?

Reality check: While not all students with drug convictions are the pot smokers we knew in high school, most of them didn't manage to get caught and convicted on their first time using drugs. This means two things about many of them that should disqualify them for aid money anyway.

One, they caved in to peer pressure. Now I understand, peer pressure is a big driving force and it's really hard not to conform and it can be devastating and all that jazz.

However, if a person cannot manage to look at their friends and say "No, that's not even legal," then what will they do living with 21,000 either students?

Second, they got caught. This means they lacked the intelligence to be discreet about their illegal activity.

It also means it is most likely was not their first time doing it.

Every student on trial will try to convince a judge that it was their first time ever doing drugs and they're so sorry they made a mistake. Yeah, the mistake of getting caught.

This time the ACLU has taken their stance a little too far. The idea that I may get less financial aid because I have to share it with my classmate who has a drug problem incenses me to a degree of anger I can't even explain.

They are also making the argument that this law targets low income students and risks cutting them off from higher education. This is an argument that should gain no merit among the judges.

So what if the government won't pay for your education: get a job or get two jobs. You made the mistake and you should have to work to get the things you need. Not to mention that the law only applies to federal aid.

Apply for some scholarships, put in the effort and stop whining about "fairness." More importantly, what is a low-income student doing spending money on drugs! If you're that poor (I really am this poor) you should be spending money on food.

You lose the right to use your income status as a basis for discrimination the second you spend money on illegal substances.

Best-case scenario, you spend a little on some weed. Worst case, you're dropping hundreds of dollars you don't have on heroin.

Either way, you don't have money because you spent it all on drugs. One of the last points I'd like to make is that no matter which way you look at it, drugs are illegal.

For all you out there hell bent on legalizing pot because it's a "victimless crime," save it, it's still illegal which still makes you a criminal.

I can drive 90 mph on the expressway, be completely safe and never have an accident, but I am still breaking the law.

If you cannot respect the laws laid down by the federal government, you do not deserve to have your tuition paid by the government.

Editorial Policy

Editorials are the opinions of The Communicator. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of IPFW, its employees or its student body. A column is solely the opinion of its author.

The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication. All submissions made via email will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words. The editorial board of The Communicator reserved the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

The Communicator is looking for columnists for the fall semester.

If you are interested contact us at contact@ipfwcommunicator.org or stop by our office in Walb 215.

Classic Sharon Stone proves horrid sequel

Commentary

By Tiffany Dirig
tdirig@ipfwcommunicator.org

So, I thought I was going to see a sexy thriller. Boy, I was mistaken. "Basic Instinct 2" was absolutely horrid. I wasn't expecting an Oscar winner or anything, but I was expecting a movie that was at least mildly entertaining. "BI:2" (as I like to call it — a reference to another bad sequel) was just stupid ... every way you look at it.

It begins with Sharon Stone — who reprises her role as the novelist, Catherine Tramell —receiving a "favor" at 110 miles per hour. Subsequently, she crashes her exceptionally nice Spyder, killing the soccer player who was with her. If you've seen the first "Basic Instinct," you know exactly what happens next. The entire storyline is completely recycled. In essence, the movie was nothing more than an excuse for two hours of gratuitous sex and violence.

If, for some strange reason, however, you do not know anything about the first "Basic Instinct," I'll give you a short synopsis of "BI:2." It centers on a sociopath (Stone) that gets her jollies from death and murder investigations. When people die, Catherine has sex ... lots and lots of it. And then the end credits role. It's a very complicated idea, I know.

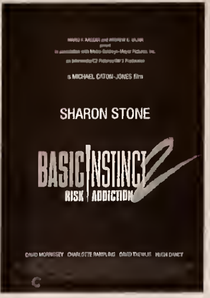
the BREAKDOWN

"Basic Instinct 2"
Starring: David Morrissey, Sharon Stone, Kata Dobo
Directed by: Mark Caton Jones
Rated: R
Run Time: 114 minutes
*film is ranked on 5-star scale

There's really not much else to say. I mean, I don't know who told Sharon Stone that she could act, let alone make another "Basic Instinct." Why, why do Hollywood producers think it's alright to make sequels 14 years after the first one? Especially when the first one wasn't all that great. (FYI: When over 13 people refuse to do a movie, stop production!)

Let's look at this logically. Sharon Stone is 48-years-old. That in and of itself is not the issue. The issue resides in that Stone is not a respectable actor. She wasn't good when she first started; she was just hot. She's not any good now; she's just, well, mildly good looking. Don't get me wrong, she has made a couple of good movies. ("Casino" and "The Mighty" come to mind). However, two or three out of an entire career doesn't equate to a good track record.

I wish there was an 800 number who I could call that would eliminate useless movies. In a perfect world, there'd be enough people that called thus eradicating pointless, used-up ideas. The only movies that would be made would be actually worth watching. Can you even begin to imagine how fabulous life could be without crappy movies?! It makes me dizzy with excitement just thinking about it. Stupid sequels that are made just to help a fizzling career would be completely forbidden.



As an aside, I can't wait for "Mrs. Doubtfire 2"! (Please tell me that you can sense the disdain and sarcasm dripping from my words.)

Classic review: Elliott Smith

Album Review

By Brian Hetrick
bhetrick@ipfwcommunicator.org

The reason for my sudden outburst in the form of a "classic review" is because of a book that I started reading a few days ago. The book is "Elliott Smith and the Big Nothing" by Benjamin Nugent. The main topics focus on Smith's musical career, his seducing visions on life, love and art and the controversy surrounding Smith's untimely death in October of 2003.

Although I'm not much past the fourth chapter, I can still vouch for what the book stands for (I know people who have read it). However, being the avid Elliott Smith fan that I am, I figured I should probably give it a read myself. So far the book is very good.

So in my current mood of Elliott Smith, I've decided to write some words about his final set of songs released as "From a Basement on the Hill." Not exactly a tribute (I'm much too late for that), but more of a wake up call for those who have not heard his music; a remembrance to a fine musician who has impacted not only the indie rock genre, but also the punk, rock and folk mediums.

The album was released in October of 2004, almost exactly a year after his death. The set includes everything from quiet, finger-picked acoustic numbers to loud, fuzzy psychedelic outbursts of noise. In fact, the album sounds almost like a "Greatest Hits" collection with every attribute that Smith has used in his music over the years.

When Smith died, the album had yet to be finished. The session was over, but the songs had no closure. This led family, friends and fellow musicians to help in the production, track listing, artwork, and release of these magnificent songs. No one will ever know if the finalized album was how Smith envisioned it to be. Certain songs may not have been included, the track listing could have been different and certainly the album cover could have changed.

However, "From a Basement" went on to be one of Elliott Smith's most solid albums to date. The disc featured many different musical styles and coincidentally displayed lyrics of sadness and loss, but also beauty and hope. I think most Smith fans are content and quite pleased with the final goodbye from one of music's most talented musicians/songwriters. I know I am and I would most certainly recommend this album, among the rest from his catalog, to any music fan.

▸ AVN
From Page A8

baseball player. I realize that you think you can take your high school skills to another level, but you were nothing more than a publicity stunt.

Thankfully, Brooks figured that out before he took a roster spot. That's right, the Padres actually offered him a non-playing spot on the roster for the first two months of the 1999 season. In the spot, Brooks could have played, had a roster player been put on injured reserve. Thankfully, he didn't jack some young kid out of a deserved spot.

If Michael Jordan, arguably the greatest athlete ever, couldn't just go make a successful run in baseball, i doubt that Mr. Nashville could.

Oh yes, and Percy Miller, known world wide as Master P. See, he as a different story of sorts. Miller was a talented basketball player. i saw him play a couple of times during his time with the Fort Wayne Fury of the Continental Basketball Association right down the street at the Memorial Coliseum and i was impressed.

He gave up rap for basketball and was starting to be taken seriously. But for anyone to say that his 10 day contract with the NBA's Charlotte Hornets was earned is a joke. At the end of the day, he was Master P and the Hornets used him to put butts in the seats of their arena. It is the same reason Fort Wayne signed him initially anyway.

Not shockingly, his basketball career flopped and he went back to making crappy, hardly recognizable music and bad Nickelodeon shows and somewhere lost whatever athletic talent he once had (showing this by embarrassing himself on "Dancing with the Stars" earlier this year).

I guess that was another example of a bad crossover since ballroom dancing is now an Olympic sport.

Bottom line is this — I really just wish that these people would pick a job and stick with it. While I enjoy the humor of it all, I can get my laughs elsewhere and I would like to cry far less.

▸ BEST/WORST
From Page A8

I mean, my "Field of Dreams" is someone else's "Kazaam." That saddens me deeply, but it cpuld be true.

Mushroomhead rocks Pierre's with heavy metal

Concert Review

By Andres Ponte
aponte@ipfwcommunicator.org

When people say age is not a problem they really mean it.

Mushroomhead is a band of amazingly clean-cut men whose members range in age from 23 to 35. Hard to believe, when watching them on stage, that these are intelligent, hardcore businessmen.

It is also amazing what this group has accomplished in the last 13 years, most of which has been spent independent of any record label.

Skinny, the band's drummer, founded the band in 1993 as an underground group located in Cleveland, Ohio. Mushroomhead had a huge following from the beginning, playing for 2000 people their second show.

They released their first independent album in 1995, called "Mushroomhead" followed by "Superbuick" in 1996, "Remix" in 1997 and "M3" in 1999. Mushroomhead has also had their music featured on movie soundtracks like "Freddy vs. Jason", "The Scorpion King", "XXX" and the newest "Texas Chainsaw Massacre".

Their stage appearance, as seen last Wednesday at Pierre's, is a fantastic show full of drama, theatrical excitement and always moving.

Never slowing down, they keep the music going and the fans hooked and into the show. Their music is a kill-your-mom-and-dad contribution of notes that is called industrial and they sound very hardcore, but cool.

In earlier years, they have opened for such bands as Marilyn Manson and Type O Negative, but it wasn't long before Mushroomhead became the headliner.

I had the pleasure to meet with their front man and they are a very charismatic band that addresses their fans with a lot of emotion and excitement for every show they do.

Waylon, being the youngest and newest member of the band, has an intense stage presence. Yet off stage, he is a down to earth dude hanging out and talking with his fans.

The band takes on tours all over the world, and they are easy to contact by having a great Web site and links to their MySpace pages.

If you are into hardcore, metal and electronic music, this is the band for you.

Photo by Andres Ponte / aponte@ipfwcommunicator.org

PRESENCE: Mushroomhead put on a good stage show on March 28 at Pierre's.

Everything is connected, including the audience

Commentary

By Allison Graber
agraber@ipfwcommunicator.org

Oil, money and undercover operations are the necessary components of a drama full of intrigue. "Syriana" is one such thought provoking movie that gives the viewer a peek into a new world. Not only does the acting convince the viewer of the severity of the topic at hand, but the plot does as well.

The intertwining of behind the scenes politics in the United States with the oil industry gives the viewer one example of the way business is done by those in power to achieve the success they desire. It is just as Danny Oalton (Tim Blake Nelson) argued in the movie, "Corruption is our protection. It's what keeps us safe and warm."

While the first 30 minutes is slow moving and seems to jump from country to country with little going on, the rest of the movie is comprised of more action. This highly complex plot including Bob Barnes (George Clooney), a hire for hit man, as well as Bryan Woodman (Matt Oamon), a financial analyst, leaves the viewer wondering how much of the story takes place in real life situations. Many are prone to believe it is close to reality.

Included in the intricate plot is Bennett Holiday (Jeffrey Wright), who is hired to investigate a merger of Connex oil and Kilen oil in order to determine any foul play. Also included in the twists of the movie is a Saudi royal family and their part in the oil industry, as well as one Pakistani's plight for meaning and survival. The camera view into different parts of the world creates a glimpse into how non-U.S. citizens view the U.S.

You are always at the edge of grasping what is going on but not quite taking a tight hold until you leave the theater and discuss it with your fellow moviegoers.

While the flavor of the movie may not be to someone's liking who enjoys the full throttle, action packed, blow 'em up movies, this movie embodies the workings of a strongly motivated politically minded director.

At times, the back and forth motion of the plot leaves the viewer with too much confusion and the mini story of Bennett Holiday and his father adds to it. You get to the end of the movie wondering if you missed the purpose of this addition to the film. This is also true for Bob's invisible wife you never get a chance to meet. There seems to be a small highlight on every main character's family at some point in the movie. One may guess it is to point out that corruption hits the home as well as business.

Without ruining the ending for those who are ready to jump out of their seats and go rent the movie (once it comes out on June 6), one more mention must be made about corruption. The statement of the movie is very anti-oil industry as well as anti-United States. For those who don't want to hear where the gas in their cars comes from, don't watch the movie. For those who do want to know, you will be mesmerized by it. For those who don't care either way, you will either be confused or intrigued.

While teaching a group of men in the movie, one Islamic schoolteacher put it, "The West has failed." You watch and be the judge if the West has failed. "Syriana" certainly has not.

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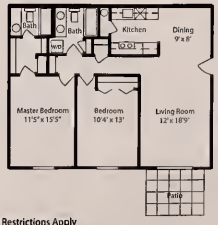

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A&E Briefs

Showcase series presents Fool for Love

The IPFW Department of Theatre Studio Showcase will present Sam Shepard's FOOL FOR LOVE on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 at 8 p.m. at the newly remodeled Studio Theatre in Ketcher Hall. The cast includes Jessica Butler as May, Oan Ambrose as Eddie, Pat Fruchey as Martin and Mike Yoder as the Old Man. The show is directed by Liane Ambrose, as her senior project.

FOOL FOR LOVE centers on Eddie, a cowboy, and May, a small-town girl, as they struggle against their condemned love. They tear apart each other and those around them with what they can't have and can't resist. The two are more than kin, and, as it turns out, less than kind.

The show begins at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 in Kettler Hall's Studio Theatre.

Admission for IPFW students is free and $3 for all others. Theatre box office opens on April 3.

Ensemble presents Amore fiorentino

The IPFW Department of Music Opera Ensemble will present Amore fiorentino on April 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Neff Recital Hall. The evening of opera consists of songs and madrigals by 17th century Italian composers depicting the complexities of love. The production, directed by Allen Saunders, includes Valerie Bishop, Judy Rhoades, Nick Reynolds, Jason McCoy, and John Wiese in the cast and is accompanied by an early music ensemble directed by Melanie Bookout.

The opera will begin with an overture with "Pur ti miro" from L'incoronazione di Poppea.

Scene One will focus on infatuation and include "Non voglio amare," "Augellin, che la voce," and "Chiome d'oro" by Claudio Monteverdi. Scene two, about love, consists of "Se ridete gioiose" by Giulio Caccini, "O del cielo d'amor" by Sigismondo d'India, as well as other select pieces by Claudio Monteverdi.

Scene three delves into betrayal, including "La gelosia" by Luigi Rossi, "Io son ferito" by Hippolito Tromboncino, and "Tu dormi" by Claudio Monteverdi. Scene four explores repentance and consists of pieces by Pietro Andrea Ziani, Carlo Pallavicini, and Giulio Caccini.

Scene five ends the evening with reconciliation and music by Giulio Caccini, Barbara Strozzi, and Claudio Monteverdi.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on from Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 in Neff Recital Hall.

Admission for IPFW students with IO is free, $4.00 for adults, $3.00 for seniors and $1 for all other students.

Music cancels performances

The IPFW Department of Music has cancelled two planned performances, one of which was scheduled to take place on Monday, April 10.

According to department chair Robert Bean, said in a release, "the flu and flu-like illnesses that have been making the rounds have taken a particularly heavy toll on the music department's faculty and student body."

The Music Faculty Showcase Recital scheduled for Monday, April 10 in Neff Hall is the only future performance that will not take place.

Other pieces being performed at the concert include "Konigsmarsch" by Richard Strauss, "Flight of the Bumblebee" by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakoff, "Fantasies on a Theme" by Haydn Norman Oello Joio, "Circus Polka" by Igor Stravinsky, "Rikudim" by Jan Van der Roost, "Lux Aurumque" by Eric Whitacre, and "Handle in the Strand" by Percy Grainger.

The concert beings at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 9 in Neff Recital Hall. Admission for IPFW students with IO is free, $4.00 for adults, $3.00 for seniors and $1 for all other students.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble will feature Jenny Robinson

The IPFW Symphonic Wind Ensemble will be performing on Sunday, April 9 at 2:30 p.m. in Neff Recital Hall. This concert will feature soloist Jenny Robinson, flutist with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and IPFW music faculty member. She will perform "Night Soliloquy" by Kent Kennan.

Greg Gausline will conduct. Robinson was previously Principal Flute of the Oakland Symphony and has played with the BBC Philharmonic in the United Kingdom. Robinson has played under renowned conductors Lorin Maazal, Bernard Haitink, and Andrew Litton. Robinson received her Bachelor's of Music from the Royal College of Music in London, England, and was awarded a full scholarship from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. She also received a scholarship to attend the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she received her Masters in Music. Robinson recently placed first in the 2006 Flute Society of Washington, D.C. Piccolo Artist competition and the 2005 National Flute Association Orchestral Audition competition.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SPECIAL EDITION

THE COMMUNICATOR

Wednesday, April 5, 2006
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Arts & Entertainment

When Art Meets Sport

Switching genres is becoming a popular trend

adVANCEd Notice

By Dan Vance
djvance@pfwcommunicator.org

-I am really not sure why athletes and entertainers cannot be content sticking to what they can and cannot do.

Athletes in movies has been happening for years and has, in all honesty, been a sad sight to see. Years before athletes were making cameos in horrible sports-based movies (cough, "Like Mike"), there were athletes making fools out of themselves with their acting "skills."

Because let's face it, making brief cameos or even supporting roles is not as bad as athletes who try to star in movies. Former basketball player Rick Fox has made a life out of horrible cameos (i.e. "Eddie" and "Holes") but is at least smart enough to never try and star in a major motion picture.

Unfortunately, I just had a flashback to former NFL flop Brian Bozworth in one of his many "starring" roles. Yeah, that is a mental picture that I don't really want.

Jake MaMotta was one of the originators or high profile athletes with garbage acting in such great movies as "Who Killed Mary What's 'Er Name?" and "The Search for One-Eye Jimmy." But, never has their been a bigger flop than Shaquille O'Neal who thoroughly embarrassed himself in "Kazaam," and "Steel," both of which he was also an executive producer for.

The sad thing about his crossover is that his first film "Blue Chips" was by far his best performance.

And singing? Shaq even does that badly.

But both of those topics are touched on somewhere else in this special section, so let me tell you about the most disturbing trend of movement here. So all actors and musicians, pay close attentinn: you are not athletes.

I can understand a little bit about the athletes crossing over to acting; it is a skill that you can acquire. And music? Well, these athletes could learn how to play an instrument and you can even learn to sing or rap to a degree. But you can't just learn to be good at baseball or any other professional sport.

Two of the most prominent roles I can think about as of late are from country singer Garth Brooks and rapper Master P.

Garth played some Spring Training games in 1999 with the San Diego Padres and later with the New York Mets before "retiring from the game" with all of like two RBI in around 40 games. Earth to Mr. Brooks, but you are not a

▶ A N: Page A6

The true essence of a basketball miracle

Book Review

By Dan Vance
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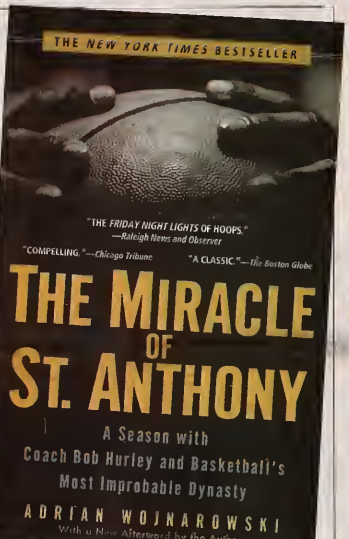

Good books about touching sports stories are very few and far between.

While most people would rather watch movies about such occurrences, the interested reader is often left out of the equation. Enter New Jersey Record Sports Columnist Adrian Wojnarowski and his book "The Miracle of St. Anthony."

While films like "Road to Glory" rule major motion pictures and "Season on the Brink," by John Feinstein is the premiere book of its kind, Wojnarowski has found a way to top them all with this story and the way that he tells it.

Following Coach Bob Hurley and his low-budget and unlikely national powerhouse basketball program is something that almost any author could do successfully. The story of Saint Anthony's itself is fantastic. But Wajnarowski tells the story in a way that takes it from merely fantastic to becoming legendary.

The focus of the story is obviously the history of the program and more importantly, a dysfunctional 2003-2004 team. It discusses how the team is full of misfits and screw ups, none of which have the chance to play Division I basketball because of ineligibility, grade and attitude problems.

the BREAKDOWN
'A Season with Coach Bob Hurley and Basketball's Most Improbable Dynasty'
By: Adrian Wojnarowski
Pages: 375
★★★★★
'Book is ranked on 5-star scale.'

Enter Bob Hurley.

The author paints Hurley as a hero, indeed a miracle worker, and it's hard to argue. Coaching at Saint Anthony, Hurley has been overwhelmingly successful. Hurley, who has never been a full time employee for the school, has had several teams become ranked nationally and has even seen five of his former players drafted in the first round of National Basketball Association drafts. And those things make Hurley a great coach, but hardly make him the great man that he is.

In the ghettos of New Jersey, where care is low and expectations are even lower, Hurley steps to the plate in hard-nosed fashion. Wojnarowski hardly tries to sugarcoat the mean streak and nose-to-the-grind work ethic of Hurley or how hard he is on his players. And yes, his attitude and ideals for his players come across as harsh quite often.

Does it work? Well, from 1993-2003 he had a 100 percent college acceptance rate for his players — you tell me.

Getting further into the book, you realize that it is less and less about basketball and even more less about what the players accomplish. Instead, it is about Hurley and how standing strong for your personal beliefs and structure can lead to amazing things.

By showing this true side to Hurley, the author does one thing in this book that is hard to find most places - he tells a compelling story. By paying close attention to detail and chronicling what is going on in the hearts and minds of his prominent subjects, Wojnarowski gives a crystal clear view of a complicated situation, team and coach.

Not once will you want to put this book down or think "I'll come back to it in a few days." The nature of the story will simply not allow you to do so.

10 athletes who have made a MUSICAL MOVE

Many athletes have tried the music business at some point. But for every 10 bad attempts, there are some upsides, but as you will read here, very few.

-compiled by Dan Vance

THE BEST

Barry Zito
- Star MLB pitcher is a standout example. His track "Boy Next Door" is solid and very John Mayer-esque and is just as good as the upper-echelon of melodic VH1-quality music.

The Chicago Bears
- "The Superbowl Shuffle" opened this floodgate of athletes singing and was actually pretty good in the 80s. It was even a deserved radio hit for a while.

Roy Jones Jr.
- Jones has two full-length albums and has shined alongside rappers Mystikal and Juvenile. Even though his music was not uber-successful, he has formed a solid music label out of the situation.

Jack McDowell
- Former Cy Young winning pitcher McDowell went hard rock with a band called Stickfigure in the late '90s and became a solid part-time backup for the group.

John Cena
- Being a white rapper is not just part of his WWE gimmick, Cena released a moderatly strong debut "You Can't See Me," in 2004. While not Grammy worthy, Cena is talented and crisp sounding.

THE WORST

"Macho Man" Randy Savage
- Savage's 2003 release "Be A Man" may be the worst music ever recorded. Basically it sounds like an asthma attack set to heavy guitar sounds.

Shaquille O'Neal
- Music and acting? Shaq should stick to the court. His two albums have been lackluster (and that is being nice). However, he did debut on Jive and his first disc went Platinum.

Carl Lewis
- Even mentioning Carl Lewis' National Anthem fiasco is cringe worthy. Never before has the public had to wonder if the Anthem singer's throat was bleeding.

Kobe Bryant
- Kobe only went rap briefly with a single featuring Tyra Banks (well, who else would you get for a rap track?). After being trashed by nearly everyone, Kobe pulled the plug on "K.O.B.E."

Ron Artest
- Artest's look into the rap genre was not bad per s. However, his timing was horrific. "I'd rather be rapping" is not something to say if you want your NBA contract renewed.

TOPS: Field of Dreams is tops on a long list of sports related feature films.

Sports films provide memorable times

Commentary

By Tiffany Dirig
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The other day I was asked to think about the best and worst movies either about sports or starring an athlete. Can I even begin to tell you how difficult that is? I got my friends and family together and took a poll. Too bad it didn't help me at all: the poll included at least 35 good ones and as many bad. I was at a complete loss. I thought about doing the top five in each category, but that was too difficult to pin down, as well. Ultimately, I came up with this: my very favorite and my very least favorite. No pseudo-scientific poll. No advice from the peanut gallery. Just me and what I think is the best and the worst. That's it.

For the "best" category, I heard all sorts of possibilities. From "The Big Lebowski" to "Snatch" to "Girlfight;" I was inundated with ideas. And, as I said, it didn't make it any easier to narrow down. Finally, I had to take a good, hard look at my enormous movie collection and come to a decision that I could live with. I came up with 1989's "Field of Dreams." I mean, honestly, it really is a great movie. I never tire of it. When I was little, I even used to call stadium lights "if-you-build-it-he-will-come lights." It's a beautiful little story about a man, Ray Kinsella (Kevin Costner) who's been searching for something he could never find. Then, one night in a dream, that something comes looking for him (to sort of quote the tagline).

Like a modern-day Noah, Ray sets out to build his "ark." Thinking about the story gives me goose bumps. I really do love this movie. Not only does it highlight some phenomenal actors (Ray Liotta, James Earl Jones, Burt Lancaster — in his last theatrical release, and a very young Gaby Hoffmann — in her first theatrical release), but it features some baseball greats ... kind of. (It really stars actors pretending to be baseball greats, but that's almost the same, right?) "Shoeless" Joe Jackson is played by Liotta, as well as other Sox players that have since passed. All the baseball is good, but it isn't the crux of the film. The movie is mostly about Ray finding himself while reconciling with his father. If you haven't seen this flick, you're doing yourself a great disservice. It's one that needs to be in everyone's collection.

The "worst" category was much, much easier to filter out. Although I got some great feedback ("Air Bud" and "Bring It On Again" rated quite high), it was no contest when I uttered on little word: "Kazaam." This laughable excuse for a movie starred the one and only (if you ask him) Shaquille O'Neal. Not only is it the worst movie starring an athlete, it is quite arguably the worst movie ever. "Ka-crap" (as I so lovingly refer to it) is about a kid, Max Connor (Francis Capra) who unwittingly releases Kazaam (O'Neal) a genie that has been held captive for thousands of years in a ... boombox!! Yes, you read that correctly. The genie that was held captive for thousands of years in a boombox, never mind that boomboxes have only been around for, oh, twenty-some years. The movie just gets worse from there. I can't even believe that Ally Walker was in this movie. C'mon Ally, you're better than that! There really are no words for how bad "Kazaam" is. It stole the classic tale of "Aladdin" and tried (emphasis on tried) to make it uber-hip (well, as hip as one can be in 1996). It's ridiculous. Whatever you do, avoid this movie as if it was the Bubonic Plague!

Hopefully, this mini-list helps a little. I know it's not really fair to rate the "best" film, because to each his own, right?

▶ BEST/WORST: Page A6

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Sports

Photo courtesy of David Simon

BLOCK PARTY: Ex-Mastodon David Simon was 4th in the ULEB in blocks.

Simon continues long road to NBA

Ex-Mastodon returns to the States after first season in European League

By Dan Vance
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Former IPFW men's basketball player David Simon is continuing his quest to play in the National Basketball Season after spending this past basketball season with Lukoil Akademik Sophia in Bulgaria.

During his time in Bulgaria, Simon played for the Lukoil team that played in the ULEB Cup and an intra-country league in Bulgaria. The ULEB Cup, which is the second biggest league in Europe, has a 10-game regular season. Lukoil Akademik Sophia made the four team playoff for the Cup and lost in the first round ending 7-5.

"I played in about two games a week. On Tuesday we'd play the ULEB games and Friday or Saturday we would play the Bulgarian games," Simon said.

In the Bulgarian games, Lukoil Akademik was 17-0 while Simon was with the team and finished the season 24-0. Lukoil is consistently the top team in the country. In an October 2005 interview, Simon's agent Mike Naditch referred to Lukoil as being "like the Yankees of Bulgaria basketball."

"The competition in the country of Bulgaria wasn't that strong. When we played other European teams, that was when it was real tough," Simon said. "We went 6-0 at home and 1-5 on the road."

In making the ULEB Tournament, Lukoil finished second in their group of six teams.

"The playoffs over there, they do it real different," Simon noted. "You play one home game and one away game. And whoever has the most points after the two games wins."

Lukoil lost the first game by 20 and even after winning the second by seven, they still lost the tournament round.

Simon starred 11 of his 12 ULEB Cup games averaging 7.6 points per game, third on the team behind two All-Stars. He ranked fourth in the ULEB in rebounds (7.8) and blocks (1.5) per game.

Simon also shot 55.2 percent from the field in the 12 ULEB games and finished second in the ULEB in offensive rebounds.

In the final ULEB game, Simon suffered a separated shoulder, an injury requiring surgery. Rather than staying in the country to finish the Bulgarian schedule, Simon and the coaches agreed that he needed to return home for the surgery. He had his surgery on March 1 and his rehabilitation started Tuesday and will last three months.

After his rehab, Simon will move to Indianapolis to begin working out with people at the Saint Vincent Sports Performance Center in hopes of landing a spot with a team in the NBA Summer League. Last summer Simon played in the league for the Minnesota Timberwolves before spending mini-camp with the New Jersey Nets.

"I just want to get healthy so I can make another run."

Simon said that if the NBA does not work out this summer and into the 2006-2007 season that he will likely return to Europe, as opposed to playing in the Continental Basketball Association. The CBA's Idaho franchise drafted Simon last fall.

Track keeps success with top runners

Sports Wrap
By Nick West
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Junior Ashley Ritchey and senior Lauren Simpson continue to tear up the track.

Ritchey took first place in the 5,000 meter run at the Nikoloff Invitational on April 1, giving her top honors in every outdoor meet of the season, including a victory in the 10,000 meter run three weeks ago at the Coastal Carolina Invitational.

Ritchey blazed the track with a time of 17:45.83 with freshman teammate Crystina Martinez coming in second at 18:00.36.

Lauren Simpson won the 3,000 meter Steeplechase with a time of 11:24.27, 14 seconds ahead of sister Kristen Simpson. She placed third.

Freshman Laura Williams broke the shorput school mark of 11.64 meters set by teammate Loree Grimm in 2005. Grimm's record was 11.77 meters.

"Throughout the indoor and outdoor season these two have been pushing each other every meet," IPFW coach Mike Fruchey said in a press release. "So it's great to see the record fall and I believe that we'll see 12 meters by the end of the year."

IPFW's 47.50 points was good for sixth place out of 12 teams. The victor, Eastern Michigan, scored 209.50.

The Mastodons head to Oxford, OH

▶ **WRAP:** *Page B3*

Home helps break slump

Photo of Ryan Keera by Eugene Harding

The IPFW baseball team scored 35 runs in three homes games last week, breaking its slump in a big way.

By Justin Kenny
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Seems like all IPFW needed to break out of its scoring slump was to play some home games.

For the first time this season, the Mastodons were able to get some games in at IPFW Field and they took advantage, winning three straight last week to push their record back to .500 at 11-11.

"It was nice to get home finally and play well," Coach Billy Gernon said. "Calumet College was gracious enough to come down and play us in a tough situation for them."

Before last week, IPFW had been held to just three runs in the previous four games while going 1-3. In wins against Central Michigan and two against Calumet College, the Mastodons scored 35 runs.

"I'll be honest, Calumet College kind of helped us break out of that slump," said Gernon about the NAIA school. "I explained to their coach the difficulty of scheduling home games this time of year for us and they came down and played us."

In the Mastodons' home opener on the season, an 11-6 victory over Mid-American Conference defending champion Central Michigan is arguably the second-biggest win for IPFW this season, trumped only by the 1-0 win at Iowa on March 25 that Gernon describes as "the biggest win ever for our young Division I program."

IPFW earned its win over Central Michigan by hammering one of the top pitchers for the Chippewas and who was one of the most sought-after pitchers last year in Michigan, Ben Rodewald. The Mastodons knocked him out of the game after just two and one-third innings, scoring five runs off the freshman. Senior Brent

▶ **HOME STAND:** *Page B3*

Assistant an asset to track team

By Amie Sarka
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Assistant track coach Teresa Covert is originally from Pennsylvania. There she lived everywhere from a dairy farm to a big city because her family moved around a lot. There was no real reason for the moves other than things like taking different jobs. Covert said her family liked to travel.

Covert graduated from the University of Albany in Michigan. She was a volunteer coach there for a year after she graduated. At Albany she was the first athlete in the history of the school to qualify for the NCAA Division I outdoor track championships. And she still holds four school records in the sprints, hurdles and jumps events.

Covert liked the variance with the sprints, hurdles and jumps as an athlete. She was first a sprinter then she started doing the hurdles. And she ended up liking them. Covert's favorite event was the 100 meter hurdles.

"They're challenging," she said.

From Michigan, Covert soon found herself relocated to Fort Wayne because her husband, who is an engineer, took a job in New Haven. She said that living here hasn't been too bad because she's met some nice people.

Head coach Mike Fruchey said that

▶ **ASSISTANT:** *Page B4*

Photo by Eugene Harding/eharding@ipfwcommunicator.org

WHOA: IPFW volleyball players celebrate during a recent match against Ohio State.

Streak grows to 16 straight

Mastodons must now focus on MIVA leader Loyola-Chicago

By Dan Vance
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The men's volleyball team kept their winning streak alive last weekend in impressive fashion shutting down 13th-ranked Ohio State and avenging an early season loss to Lewis. Both victories came by the score of 3-0.

The Mastodons dominated the Lewis Flyers on Friday night, winning 30-16, 30-16 and 30-17. IPFW hit .494 for the night, led by sophomore Josh Stewart and junior setter Colin Lundeen, who each hit over .800. Drew Pickering led the Flyers hitting just .250 with 11 kills.

A team with only three players who are not freshmen, Lewis upset IPFW on Jan. 27 in four games.

"Ever since we lost that match, everyone has been talking about how bad we wanted to come out and put it to them," sophomore outside hitter C.J. Macias said. "We had so much energy. Everybody was so intense."

This time around, Lewis continually shot themselves in the foot with 23 errors to their 23 kills for a hitting percentage of .000, while IPFW committed only eight attack errors to 46 kills.

Macias again led the kill department for the Mastodons with 11. The total tied Macias' season low which he put up in the first match of the season against Carthage. Macias had 28 kills in the first meeting with Lewis.

Senior Sendar Sikca tallied up right kills to go with two solo blocks and seven block assists. Sophomore Brock Ullrich and junior Josh Collins each had seven kills while sophomore libero Mike Morici had seven digs to lead the team, his most in three matches.

On Saturday, the Mastodons left Ohio State stunned after dominating the Buckeyes in the clutch situations to win 30-26, 30-28 and 30-24. Despite the fact that all three games were close, Ohio State was never able to hold an advantage over IPFW despite 17 kills from Mark Greaves.

"During this whole streak, we have just kind of been focused on taking one game at a time," said Ullrich. "Our focus the whole week was Lewis and once that game was over with it was like OK good we won, now forget about it and focus on

▶ **STREAKING:** *Page B3*

Attendance up in numbers for volleyball team

By Dan Vance
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The men's volleyball game last Saturday against Ohio State drew 2,018 fans, the second most of any match for the team this season. Only against Ball State on Feb. 17 did the team draw more with 2,077 fans.

The attendance this year is now at a total of 14,697 fans (an average of 1,225 per match) for home games against just 2,734 fans for road games not counting the Penn State invitational or three matches in Puerto Rico during Spring Break.

Only one road match, at Ball State, drew more than 1,000 fans with 1,047. Only 75 fans attended the game at Mercyhurst whereas 1,106 were in attendance at the Hilliard Gates Sports Center when Mercyhurst visited on March 24.

"It seems like the community really cares," sophomore outside hitter Brock Ullrich said. "Maybe men's volleyball is something that they don't get to see and once they do, they enjoy it."

The team has had over 1,000 fans at eight of the 12 home matches with a season-low attendance of 709 for the first match of the season against Carthage. In 2005, the high for the team was 1,057 against Ball State and they did not eclipse 1,000 any other time during the season with a low of 491 against Clarke.

"You can tell that our crowd helps us out a lot," Ullrich said. "They can help bring us up and its just great to have such support for our team here."

In 15 homes games in the 2005 season, attendance totaled 10,359 and averaged 691 fans per game, an increase of roughly 150 percent.

"You really have to create an interest in the game. Think that right being poised to possibly win the MIVA and the tournament and that will help," Athletic Director Mark Pope noted. A win this Friday could give the team a regular season conference title.

Compared to IPFW's sports, the attendance for men's volleyball is far and away the best. The women's program drew in 5,818 fans over 10 matches for 582 fans per contest, less than half of the men's team's average attendance.

"People don't just show up at games unannounced," Pope noted while applauding the work of the athletic department staff. "That's really neat to see the entire department work together towards something."

The only other comparable sport - basketball - also fails when put up against coach Arnie Bull's team.

Women's basketball drew in an average of 576 fans per game and a total of 7,483 during 13 games during the course of the season. However, their top two attended games both took place in the much larger Memorial Coliseum. The Dec. 11 game against Northern Iowa was part of the Hoopla event and drew 1,876 fans. Their most attended game was Feb. 26 against North Dakota State at the Coliseum with an attendance of 2,500. That game, however, was right before a men's basketball game.

In eight games at the Gates Center, the team drew 3,107 fans, just 388 per game.

The men's basketball team had a stronger number, drawing in a total of 37,388 fans during their 11 home games for an average of 3,393 fans per game. But again, it does lack in comparison to the volleyball team's numbers because the basketball program plays in a much larger arena.

The Memorial Coliseum can hold up to 11,500 fans for a basketball game, whereas the capacity of Gates is only 2,800, meaning that the Coliseum is 4.1 times larger in capacity than the Gates Center.

The men's basketball team draws in roughly 27 percent more fans per game than men's volleyball has this season, but fills only 29.5 percent of the seats at the Memorial Coliseum. The volleyball team fills 43.75 percent of the Gates Center on average.

If the basketball team was to draw at the same percentage of fans at the Gates Center, they would average just 813 fans per contest, whereas if the volleyball team filled 43.75 percent of the Coliseum, they would draw 5,031 fans per match.

Arnie is showing us that moving up in a conference can bolster attendance," Pope added.

11 things I think I think

West Point

By Nick West
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Before I delve into sports, I'd like to extend a thank you to Sports Illustrated writer Inner King for the wonderful headline idea for this version of West Point.

I think the IPFW men's volleyball team will continue its record-breaking win streak and earn home court advantage throughout the MIVA tournament with a victory over Loyola-Chicago this Friday at Gates Center. It will be a colossal task, but **I think** the Mastodons can hold the Ramblers under 72 points in three games – an average of 24 per game for the non-Math majors like myself – to clinch the home court.

And trust me, home court is everything for IPFW. Gates Center has filled up with an average of 1,225 rowdy fans per contest this season and the players feed off of the crowd's enthusiasm, which is always prevalent.

As a result, **I think** because IPFW will have home court advantage, it will win the MIVA tournament and earn a berth in the NCAA Final Four for the first time since 1999.

I think the hiring of Chris Paul as IPFW women's basketball coach was an ingenious idea by athletic director Mark Pope. Paul has the passion to revive a program that had grown stagnant over the past two years.

I hope none of the student-athletes for either of the basketball programs transfers or quits like in years past. This is "that time of year," as many call it, with players from each of the programs leaving in the early spring season for whatever reason, but mostly to flee a losing atmosphere. It is damaging to a program when players leave because it hurts the camaraderie and creates another reshape of the nucleus. If no one leaves, **I think** the IPFW basketball programs will be in outstanding shape to improve on their 2005-06 seasons.

I think George Mason's magical run through the NCAA tournament shows that mid-majors can compete in the Big Dance. It gives hope to the mid-major conferences like the Mid-Con, Mid-American, Horizon League and Missouri Valleys of the world. However, a run like this doesn't happen every year. In fact, it hardly comes around every six or seven years. Mason's run didn't set a trend for mid-majors either; it just gave them something to aspire to. Don't expect to see a George Mason torch the Tournament every year. It won't happen. But wouldn't it be back-wild if the Mastodons get into the Mid-Con and slip on the Cinderella shoe come Tourney-time?

I think IPFW track star Ashley Ritchey can run a lot farther and faster than I can. But I bet I'd beat her in a game of beer pong.

I think Eric Burns should be in consideration for IPFW coach of the year talk. The women's tennis team boasts its best record in Division I history with five games left to go. The women were 15-16 as of April 3 and can finish no worse than 15-15, which they won't. The men's team (10-11) also boasts its most successful season in the win column of Division I history. And a winning season is totally possible because there are five games left for the men.

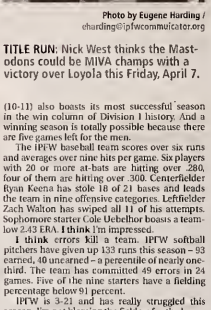

Photo by Eugene Harding / eharding@ipfwcommunicator.org

TITLE RUN: Nick West thinks the Mastodons could be MIVA champs with a victory over Loyola this Friday, April 7.

The IPFW baseball team scores over six runs and averages over nine hits per game. Six players with 20 or more at-bats are hitting over .280, four of them are hitting over .300. Centerfielder Ryan Keena has stole 18 of 21 bases and leads the team in nine offensive categories. Leftfielder Zach Walton has swiped all 11 of his attempts. Sophomore starter Cole Uebelhor boasts a team-low 2.43 ERA. **I think** I'm impressed.

I think errors kill a team. IPFW softball pitchers have given up 133 runs this season – 93 earned, 40 unearned – a percentile of nearly one-third. The team has committed 49 errors in 24 games. Five of the nine starters have a fielding percentage below 91 percent.

IPFW is 3-21 and has really struggled this season. I'm not blaming the fielders for the losses – the pitchers have walked a lot of batters, the hitting has been really inconsistent, some coaching decisions have been suspect and the schedule has been harsh – but I'm just pointing out the facts.

By now you've probably looked through this paper multiple times to find your weekly fix of Witty Banter with Skip and Trip and have come to the sad realization it is not in this issue. I don't think you should fret because **I think** the clever fellas will be back next week.

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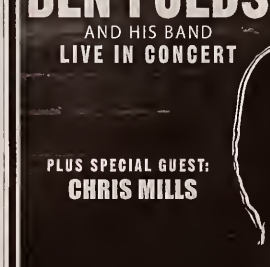

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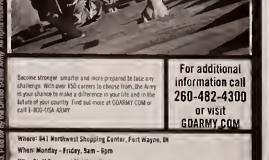

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Sophomore pitching ace Uebelhor earns honor

By Justin Kenny
jkennyl@ipfwcommunicator.org

For his part in IPFW's 1-0 win over Iowa on March 25, in which he threw a complete-game four-hitter, sophomore pitcher Cole Uebelhor was named Division I Independent Pitcher of the Week for the final week of March. The voting was done by coaches and sports information directors.

In what IPFW coach Billy Gernon has repeatedly called "the biggest win in this program's history," Uebelhor pitched a gem. The Hawkeyes, picked by many to finish in the top three in the Big Ten, were limited to just seven base-runners by the Mastodons. Uebelhor struck out four and induced a double-play in the bottom of the tenth to clinch the game.

"His pitch count was low enough that we just kept riding him (through the game)," Gernon said. "He was sensational."

Uebelhor saw plenty of action as a freshman and fought through some tough outings. He appeared in 15 games, starting eight, and compiled a 2-4 record and a 6.88 ERA.

But his 32 strikeouts against 15 walks showed the IPFW coaching staff he had talent.

"He logged a lot of innings last year; he kind of got thrown into the fire," Gernon said. "We knew he would be something special."

But Uebelhor has come out of the gates strong this season, posting a 2.43 ERA and a 2-2 record through April 3. He has thrown two complete games and has struck out 21 against just nine walks in 33 and a third innings.

"He has great velocity," Gernon said. "We have been helping him develop some other pitches."

Something that was hindering Uebelhor from being more successful was the fact that during his motion he would tip-off his change-up.

This allowed batters to see what was coming and lay back in their stance and await the ball. When Gernon watched Uebelhor warm up in the bullpen at Iowa, he saw the freshman tipping off the change. By rectifying that, Uebelhor has become even better.

"It didn't matter how good he was (with his other pitches)," Gernon said. "By giving away his change he was giving the opponents an advantage."

Not only has Uebelhor stepped it up on the field, he also takes care of business in the classroom. Currently holding a 4.0 GPA, Gernon says Uebelhor is the textbook example of a dedicated student-athlete.

"We strive to have good baseball players and good students," Gernon said. "No better example of that than (Uebelhor)."

Game three was again dominated by IPFW with Sikea and Macias showing off some powerful blocking on the way to the win.

Macias and Stewart led the team with six block assists each while Sikea and Lundeen each had four block assists. The Mastodons also outdug Ohio State 35-29, led by Morici with nine.

Ohio State also struggled with consistency and depth in their hitting. While Greaves led the team with 17 kills, no other Buckeye recorded double figures in any category. Stuart Katz had eight kills to follow Greaves while Dan Meske led OSU with eight digs.

Daniel Mathews and John Albertson each had six blocks to lead Ohio State on the defensive end.

The Mastodons will host Loyola-Chicago this Friday at the Gates Center. Loyola defeated IPFW in their previous meeting and currently lead the Mastodons by half a game in the MIVA.

For IPFW to win the conference regular season title, they would need to beat the Ramblers 3-0 on Friday and also hold them to less than 73 points, which is how many IPFW scored against them last time the two teams played. The winner of the regular season hosts the MIVA tournament and gets a first round bye.

"Hopefully in the match, none of us have that on our minds," Ullrich said of the situations needed for a conference title. "We just have to play the game and what happens happens."

The last time IPFW won the MIVA regular season title was 1999. That year they also won the conference tournament.

▸ STREAKING
From Page B1

Ohio State and what we have to do to beat them."

Sikea hammered down a powerful kill early in game one off a set from Lundeen to give IPFW a 7-3 lead and the Mastodons never looked back in the first game. Ohio State never got closer than two and the teams continued to trade points until IPFW reached 30 on back-to-back errors from the Buckeyes.

The Buckeyes dominated the second game, jumping out to a 6-0 lead before the Mastodons was able to find a rhythm. Ohio State continued to power past IPFW on the strength of Greaves and Katz to extend their lead to 21-13. But IPFW started finding their rhythm late in the game and powered back on a 14-6 run, getting four kills from Stewart on the stretch.

"It was definitely between Ohio State getting complacent and the crowd was great," Macias said of what helped fuel the comeback.

"I think after we got a few big blocks the crowd kind of helped us get back into it. The crowd got really into it and I think we just rode the crowd and rode the emotion we had there," Ullrich added.

Macias, who had been harassed by the Ohio State blockers all night, had the final three kills of the match for the Mastodons to help them to the win. Macias had a match high 18 kills.

"We spread the ball around a lot better. Colin spread the ball around great. He was getting everyone involved," Macias noted.

▸ WRAP
From Page B1

to compete in the Miami Invitational on April 7 through 8.

Fry takes 22nd, Mastodons take 9th

Junior Matt Fry tied for 22nd and the IPFW men's golf team tied for ninth place at the Eastern Kentucky Spring Invitational last weekend.

The Mastodons finished with a 936 and the winner, Tennessee Tech, took top honors after a play-off with Northern Illinois. Tennessee Tech had 882.

Fry's score of 229 was 24 behind medalist Scott Stallings' 205. The Tennessee Tech golf was 11 under par.

Patrick Kelley had a 234, Nathan Hoff a 238, Zach Buchan a 238, Patrick Florea a 238 and Andy Campbell a 242 for IPFW.

IPFW's next action is at the Wright State Norm Bullock Collegiate Classic in Dayton, OH on April 9 and 10.

Women's tennis secures winning season

The IPFW women's tennis team improved to 15-10 this season and secured a winning record for the first time in its Division I history.

With five games remaining in the season as of April 3, the Mastodons are guaranteed at least a .500 record.

But the way the team has been winning lately, a .500 record doesn't seem like it will happen. The Mastodons swept Huntington 7-0 on April 1 and have won 13 of their last 17 since Feb. 10.

IPFW hosts Wright State on April 13 at the tennis courts on campus and then has a week off before hosting the Independent Tournament on April 21 and 22. The Wright State match time is 4 p.m.

Men pushing for .500

IPFW's 10-11 record this season is already a Division 1 program high for victories, but the Mastodons still sit below a .500 record.

Now, the bad news first.

Two of IPFW's final five games are against the Mid-American Conference – schools the team has struggled against this season. The Mastodons lost 6-1 to Northern Illinois on March 26 and 7-0 to Western Michigan on April 1. If IPFW loses to the MAC schools, it must win its other three games to secure a .500 record.

The good news is IPFW hosts three of its final five games at home, including the MAC matchups against Ball State (April 11) and Buffalo (April 16). The Mastodons are 5-5 at home but have won four out of their last five at the IPFW tennis courts.

After the loss to Western Michigan, IPFW secured its 10th win with a 7-0 walloping of Huntington.

IPFW hosts Wright State on April 12 at 2 p.m. The Ball State match is slated for 1 p.m. and Buffalo at 2 p.m.

▸ SOFTBALL
From Page B4

Mastodons begin the second half of their schedule. IPFW will host Detroit on Thursday, April 6 in a double header before playing Notre Dame on Friday, April 7. Four straight home games in the next week, hopefully the home turf will offer an advantage.

▸ HOME STAND
From Page B1

Doty hit a home run for IPFW and seniors Ryan Keena and Zach Walton combined for five stolen bases. The Mastodons also gained the win on an off-day for the starting pitchers. Gernon started reliever Travis Johnson and the senior went nearly four innings while giving up just one run. Junior Adam Gibson gained the win, his second of the season.

"For us to match up with a MAC school with our bullpen guys was really big," Gernon said. "That is a lot of a good team we beat."

On March 30 the Mastodons defeated Calumet College twice by scores of 12-0 and 12-2. Gernon saw the doubleheader as a good time to get players who typically don't get to see the field some action.

Keena led the way for IPFW in game one, going 3-for-4 with five RBI. The Mastodons scattered 13 hits while giving up just three hits. Eric Lambert threw a complete-game shutout while striking out two.

In game two, freshman Quintin Brown went 3-for-3 while three RBI and Keena added a triple and three RBI in IPFW's win. Cole Uebelhor pitched four innings and struck out seven to get the win.

So far this season, it looks as if the Mastodons are a bit more balanced than a year ago. In 2005, IPFW had to rely on its hitting to carry it through games. This season, the pitching staff has been making more strides and keeping the Mastodons close when the bats are silent. The best example is the extra-inning 1-0 win at Iowa.

"At the beginning of the season I was concerned that we weren't going to be able to put on defensive pressure on the opposition, but so far that hasn't been a problem," Gernon said. "Keena is still rockin', Walton hasn't been thrown out stealing (11 tries) and we are meshing pretty well. We are getting a lot of production from a lot of different people."

Through April 3, IPFW pitchers hold a 4.79 ERA, nearly a full run better than their opponents. But the team batting average has dropped off from a year ago when it finished at .315, down to .290 after 22 games. But with an influx of better pitching, Gernon can handle the small drop in batting if it translates into an improvement in pitching.

"Last year we won with lack of balance," Gernon said. "This year I'm seeing the pitching and hitting come closer together."

After 22 games last season, the Mastodons were 12-10.

IPFW will be adding more depth at the pitching position in the coming weeks. Slated as the number one starter before the season, junior transfer Andrew Porter will be returning from an injury he suffered March 11 against Eastern Illinois. Porter is currently 1-2 with a 5.29 ERA with 10 strikeouts and one walk in 17 innings. Gernon hopes to have him back on the mound on the weekend of April 15 and 16 when the Mastodons will play four games against Mid-Continent for Chicago State. IPFW will not host a home game until then, instead hitting the road for games at Central Michigan and Ball State.

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Softball drops four in pair of doubleheaders

■ *Failure by the offense and errors lead to runs in doubleheader with Michigan State*

By Megan Yoder
myoder@ipfwcommunicator.org

On March 29, IPFW faced off against one of their toughest opponents in the regular season schedule. After a delay due to weather the previous Wednesday, the Mastodons faced off with the 18-10 Spartans. From the beginning, the Spartans took command of the Mastodon defense. Four hits and one error led to four runs in the first for the Spartans.

IPFW countered in the bottom of the first with an RBI by senior Jenna Beachy. Another run was posted by the Spartans in the second and IPFW failed to answer.

Freshman Katie Aspegren held her own for the Mastodons in the third and the inning went scoreless for both teams. In the seventh, however, Michigan State posted seven runs off of five hits and one error.

IPFW failed to answer in the bottom of the fourth, and came back with one more in the seventh, but the game ended in five innings.

Leading the offense was Beachy going 2-for-3, hitting in both of the Mastodons' two runs.

In the second game of the day, sophomore Jenna Connelly took the mound for the Mastodons. This time, the Spartans shut down any sign of the Mastodons' offense, allowing a mere two hits from the leftfielder Beachy and junior first baseman Jessica Mast.

The first inning was scoreless for both teams, but Michigan State took the lead in the second with three runs off of three hits and one error. In the third, Michigan again posted another run off of a double and fielder's choice. Connelly held the Spartans in the fourth, fifth and sixth, posting two strikeouts in three innings. In the seventh, however, the Spartans again came alive, scoring three runs off of five hits.

On Saturday, the team was determined to make up for the disappointing finish the day before. However, bats were still slow and the Mastodons struggled batting runs in. The offense was again led by Beachy, who went 3-for-3 in the first game. Freshman Michelle Meighen also contributed to the hits column with one of her own, along with fellow freshman Kayla Vargo.

Aspegren only gave up six hits, but it was enough for two runs, in the third and fourth. The Mastodons had an opportunity to counter in the sixth with a hit by Beachy, but failed to bat behind her and ended up stranding two going into the seventh. Three up three down ended it for the Mastodons in the seventh.

The second game was much of the same. Connelly gave up only three hits the entire game and one run, but again the Mastodons failed to score. Hits by Kacie Stone, Ashley Johnson and Vargo were left unaided and the game ended with a back-to-back triple and single by Valparaiso.

The four losses makes for a 3-21 record as the

▸ SOFTBALL: *Page B3*

EEKS: Freshman Michelle Meighen played third base.

By Dan Vance/
djvance@ipfwcommunicator.org

IPFW still 12th in AVCA poll

The IPFW men's volleyball team saw no change in its national ranking after weekend victories against Lewis and Ohio State.

The American Volleyball Coaches Association polls released on April 3 have IPFW in the No. 12 spot for the third consecutive week. After dropping a 3-0 match to IPFW, the Buckeyes dropped back one spot to 14.

No significant moves took place with UC Irvine still holding the top spot at 23-3. Penn State, who IPFW still plays this season is ranked No. 11 in the new polls.

Sophomore C.J. Macias is ranked third in kills per game nationally and second in total kills with 475.

▸ ASSISTANT
From Page B1

he heard about Covert when she left a voice mail on his phone in the track office asking if he needed any help with the program. He added that he was getting to the point where he was looking for a coach last year. He had a few people in mind of who he wanted to ask. Everything worked out, and Covert became a part time coach.

Fruchey said that Covert is the most effective sprint/hurdle/jump coach the team has had so far. He added that she was a good asset to the team because she knows everything well in regards to the springs, hurdles and jumps. At the age of 27, Fruchey said Covert relates to the kids better because she's younger.

One thing Covert brings to the program, according to Fruchey, is the fact that she qualified for the championships herself. She also doesn't ask the athletes to do anything that she hasn't done herself. Fruchey said that she jumps in on a work out occasionally to help her athletes push themselves harder.

Covert hopes this season that her group runs faster and jumps further than they've ever done before. She wants them to gain experience competing at the collegiate level since her group consists of all new people.

"My group of girls are great," commented Covert.

She also added that she was proud of them. Her goal that she had for them this year was to break the old school records. They broke most of the old records for indoor and outdoor. And Covert's favorite part about coaching is the kids. She really likes working with people and helping them. Covert feels that her athletes can go to her with problems they may be having even outside of track.

Covert likes coaching college track because it is more intense and the athlete has to be serious about running.

"I wouldn't mind coaching high school," said Covert.

But, the high school athletes are just learning how to do everything. The college level is at a higher and different level than high school track, according to Covert. She feels fortunate because she's done a good job.

At 27 years old, Covert feels that she has an advantage for being young. She's fresh out of competing. She can relate to how the athletes are feeling. She's not so far removed from

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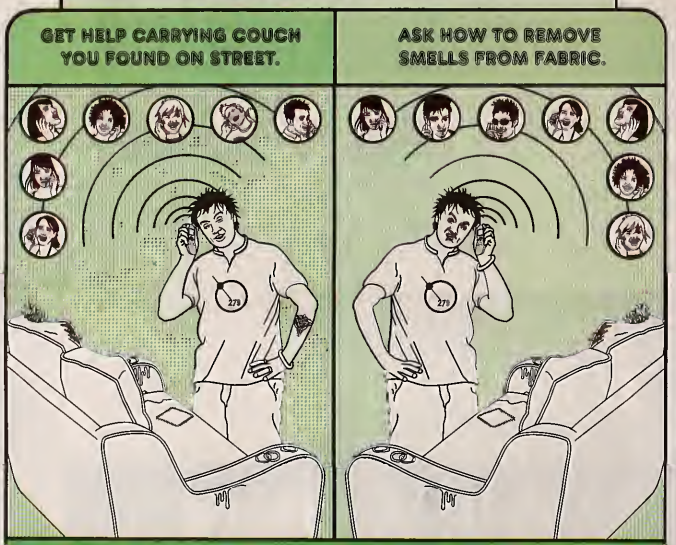

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